

non-elected subject matter in the parent application, namely, Species IV, FIGS. 6-7, drawn to an actuator assembly mounted disc snubber.

This Preliminary Amendment presents certain amendments to the title, claims, drawings and specification of the present divisional application.

The title of the present divisional application has been changed from "MECHANICAL SHOCK PROTECTION IN A DISC DRIVE" to "ACTUATOR ASSEMBLY MOUNTED DISC SNUBBER" to more particularly identify the claimed subject matter.

With regard to the claims, claims 2-17 have been canceled by the accompanying transmittal letter, claim 1 has been canceled hereinabove, and new claims 18-24 have been added. The newly added claims are generally directed to a disc drive of the type having at least one rotatable disc and a rotary actuator assembly adjacent the disc, the actuator assembly having a side to which a disc snubber is attached. The snubber includes a snubber arm that extends over a portion of the disc and limits deflection of the disc resulting from application of a non-operational shock to the disc drive. As discussed during the prosecution of the parent application, severe contact between a rigid disc and a rigid actuator arm can directly damage the disc and/or the actuator arm, and can also damage a read/write head supported by the arm due to the propagation of wave energy down the actuator arm, resulting in the head lifting up and slapping down against the disc. This damage is minimized through the use of the snubber recited in the claims.

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With regard to the drawings, a minor error of a typographical nature was discovered during prosecution of the parent application, in that FIG. 13 did not include lead lines from reference numeral "142" to point out the flex strips illustrated therein. Accordingly, these lead lines have been provided in the accompanying red-lined drawing.

With regard to the specification, several minor errors of a typographical nature were identified during prosecution of the parent application. The amendments to the specification presented above have been provided to correct these errors.

The Applicants submit that these amendments to the title, claims, drawings and specification are proper, do not introduce new matter and place the present divisional application in proper condition for examination.

With the entering of these amendments, the status of the claims in the present divisional application is as follows:

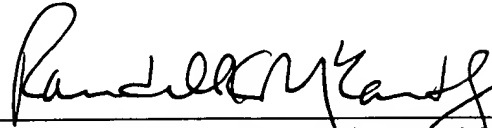
<u>Claim</u>	<u>Status</u>
18. (New)	Independent.
19. (New)	Depends from claim 18.
20. (New)	Depends from claim 18.
21. (New)	Independent.
22. (New)	Depends from claim 21.
23. (New)	Depends from claim 21.
24. (New)	Independent.

The Applicants accordingly request that the Examiner examine the present divisional application and pass the same to issuance. The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants Attorney should any questions arise concerning this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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